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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510 - 3505

January 4, 2022

Secretary Alejandra Y. Castillo
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Castillo:

I write to draw your attention to the application submitted by the Trumbull County Tourism Bureau for funding from the American Rescue Plan Act Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Notice of Funding Opportunity. The Tourism Bureau plans to use the funds for a Trumbull County Regional Tourism Strategic Recovery Plan.

The Trumbull County Tourism Bureau found that travel and tourism had a \$560 million economic impact for the county in 2019. Due to the ongoing pandemic, this number is estimated to have decreased by at least 20% in the time since.

The plan that the Tourism Bureau hopes to implement consists of eight steps that go from analyzing the region's current resources to writing a master plan for the region's travel and tourism industry going forward. This will help Trumbull County's economy recover from the pandemic while also allowing for additional growth in the future. The plan is also meant to support underserved communities by helping to develop a diverse and inclusive workforce.

I ask that the Economic Development Administration give full and fair consideration to the application from the Trumbull County Tourism Bureau. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can be of assistance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator